



Eifel Wakeup

Monday-Friday from 6-9 a.m.

Featuring local news, road condition updates, and what Team Eifel members need to know.

News Briefs

Awards banquet

The 52nd Fighter Wing 2002 Annual Awards Banquet takes place Feb. 22 in the base fitness center. Cocktail hour is at 5:30 p.m. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$20. Dress is mess dress and semi-formal. Call unit first sergeants by today to reserve seats.

Electronic housing list

The base housing office now features housing listings on the Spangdahlem AB Intranet. The listings are updated hourly. Visit <https://wwwmil.spangdahlem.af.mil>, click on the "housing" link, then the "open off base list" and type in specific housing criteria, including city, number of bedrooms needed, maximum rent and desired pet policy.

CGO council

The Company Grade Officers' council lunch and learn workshop takes place Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Spang Club patio. Col. Susan Voveris, 52nd Maintenance Group commander, is the guest speaker. Also, a CGO council meeting takes place Feb. 21 at 4:30 p.m. in the Spang Club Cockpit Lounge. The 52nd Security Forces Squadron is in the meeting spotlight.

Dress and appearance

Black stocking caps, also known as Navy watch caps, may be worn on Spangdahlem AB now through Feb. 28 when flight jackets, leather A-2 flying jackets or cold weather camouflage jackets are worn. Caps may be worn while members are traveling to and from the base, but aren't permitted to be worn in place of BDU caps when members exit vehicles off base.

AFSA meeting

The Air Force Sergeant's Association meets Monday at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday. An organization buffet starts at 11 a.m. Call Tech. Sgt. Amy Hogan at 452-7506 for more information.

EPC meeting

The 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Protection Committee meeting takes place Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. in the 52nd Fighter Wing conference room, in building 23. Call the 52nd CES Environmental Flight at 452-6082 for more information.

Award ceremony

The 52nd Fighter Wing Annual Communications and Information Professionals award ceremony takes place Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. in the Spang Club.

Spirits up!

Chaplains spread out to keep Team Eifel morale high during wing's recent and possible upcoming deployments.

Read "Chaplains Move In To Keep Wing Spirits Up," on Page 2



Eifel Times

Vol. 37, Issue 6

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Feb. 14, 2003



Senior Airman Chris Medaugh and Airman 1st Class Nick Morrison, 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron Electronic Warfare Section team members, put their problem solving skills to the test as they discuss the strategy for repairing an ALQ-131 pod. The EWS section is responsible for repair and maintenance of all such pods in the Air Force worldwide.

High-tech pods protect wing pilots from adversary's sky-scoping eyes

Wing electronic warfare repair specialists keep 'mechanical sentries' on guard

Story and photos by Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

For years wing pilots have patrolled Middle Eastern no-fly zones above the watchful eyes of enemy radar. However, they don't have to rely on their wits alone for protection.

The Air Force uses formidable technology to guard wing pilots with the help of "mechanical sentries." These sentries create an electronic barrier of protection against U.S. adversaries.

"We've been going on missions over Northern and Southern Watch in Iraq," said Tech. Sgt. Roger Speckine, 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron Electronic Warfare Section Chief. "The pilots will not fly into those areas without them."

It seems Tech Sgt. Speckine and his team have little margin for error when it comes to the repair and maintenance of ALQ-131s.

Though the name may sound akin to Star Wars' quirky R2-D2 and C-3PO robots, the monstrous, submarine-shaped ALQ-131 "pods" enable the Air Force to defend U.S. military aircraft against surface-to-air missiles. The pods are but one line of defense in EW, also known as electronic combat, which uses such counter measures as electronic jamming or deception to confuse and deceive an adversary's air defense systems.

Tech. Sgt. Speckine said though the process may sound complex, the pod's purpose is relatively simple.

"The enemy sends out radar pulses that go up, hit Air Force aircraft and bounce back in order to track the location of the plane itself," said the section chief. "Our equipment takes in the radar pulses, scrambles the signal and sends it back out. The radar site picks up those signals, so on their radarscope it appears the plane is one location, when it's really in another."



Staff Sgt. Matthew Osterholt, 52nd CMS EWS repair specialist, inspects the internal parts of an ALQ-131 pod. Hundreds of tiny components make up the 600-pound radar scrambling system.

However, without ALQ-131s, the odds of U.S. aircraft being shot down over hostile territory are higher.

Recent deployments have significantly increased the operations tempo in his section and the pace has multiplied since the 52nd EWS is a Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility for all pods used in the Air Force worldwide.

"We're manned for Monday to Friday, two shifts," he said. "Right now, we're on 24-7 ops."

The long hours, dedication and team-work recently garnered the 52nd EWS the Installation Excellence award in the special recognition category.

Airman 1st Class Nick Morrison, repair specialist, summarized working on the \$2 million electronic behemoth.

"Repairing these pods requires not only an understanding of electronics, but an ability to use logic to analyze and solve a problem. Working with these things is like solving really big, expensive, puzzles," he said.



Chaplains move in to help wing keep spirits up

Relocations on base make guidance easier to find

By Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Base chaplains have made attaining spiritual balance more convenient and accessible during deployments by setting up shop at various units, including the 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron and the 52nd Medical Group.

By moving into units and in close proximity to the flight line, Chaplain (Capt.) Bill Coker and Chaplain (Capt.) Glen Gresham, 52nd Fighter Wing Chapel Services, say their ability to assist wing members and their families is enhanced during these uncertain times.

"The chaplain's purpose is to be a reminder of the holy to the community," said Chaplain Coker. "We serve as the conscience and spiritual guides to military members and their families, helping them to recognize that which is moral and ethical and also recognize their spirituality above all else," he said.

Chaplain Gresham said he and his team provide avenues to help wing members cope with stress and stay positive at the chapel, at units, even down range.

"The method of ministry used in deployed settings is very unique in the sense that we don't have the parish model. We hold 'tent ministry,' which allows us to address issues and bring encouragement," said Chaplain Gresham.

"We provide a short, devotional message to empower military members, helping them remain focused so that they can get back out to complete the mission," added Chaplain Coker.

According to the chapel staff, support is just as convenient here at Spangdahlem Air Base. Chaplain Gresham said one of the greater advantages to moving out into units on base is the additional privacy and confidentiality in seeking guidance.

"Anyone can come here to the chapel or into the units and talk to us," said Chaplain Gresham. "It's not reported up the chain, it's not reported to the first sergeant.

"We know it can be a hassle to get from the flight line to the chapel," said Chaplain Gresham.

"Our offices (at the units) are strategically located, making the Chaplain Services responsive to the expeditionary needs of the men and women in blue. People can simply walk in for a visit, or schedule appointments with the chapel secretary," said Chaplain Coker.



Chaplain (Capt.) Glenn Gresham, 52nd FW/HC, reviews his weekly schedule at his new office location near the flightline.



Settling into his new location, Chaplain (Capt.) Bill Coker, 52nd Fighter Wing Chapel Services visits with doctors Maj. Jaye Adams, left, and Capt. Eric Edelenbos at the Bitburg Annex hospital.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Chaplains Coker and Gresham said that their ministry and counseling also accommodate family members who may not be sure how to deal with temporary separations from loved ones.

"The first thing I tell a family member is that they have to accept the reality of deployments," said Chaplain Coker. "Then I work with them to put in place realistic, reasonable and flexible strategies for coping with the seasons of separation."

In conjunction with individual counseling, the chaplains said they can make referrals to support groups such as the Key Spouses and can even provide assistance in child and teen adjustment, through already established chapel

programs, such as AWANA, Kids for Christ and Club Beyond.

The chaplains emphasized the accessibility and confidentiality they offer the community.

"Talking to us is completely confidential, and there is always a duty chaplain available after duty hours, through the command post," said Chaplain Coker.

Chaplain Gresham operates from building 49 near the flight line, and Chaplain Coker is located in Bitburg Annex building 67.

Wing members and spouses are encouraged to make appointments with the chapel secretary or check the chapel for times for worship services and Masses and special chapel events by calling 452-6711.

Accidents

By Mr. Iain H. Lotan
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Twenty-Four Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, two of which were major.

The first major accident occurred while traveling in Bitburg. An airman reported her vehicle slid on a patch of ice, which caused her vehicle to drive over a curb and into a guardrail. The car sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene.

The second major accident occurred while traveling west on B-50. As an airman was approaching a left hand turn, the vehicle began to slide and hit two other vehicles on the road. Due to the severity of the accident, B-50 was temporarily closed. Bitburg Polizei conducted the accident investigation. The airman was injured and transported by helicopter to a hospital in Trier. The vehicles sustained disabling damage and were towed from the scene.

The twenty-two minor accidents consisted of the following:

- Three from inattentive driving.
- Eleven identified as speed too fast for conditions.
- One from wildlife.
- Three from backing.
- Three occurred in parking lots.
- One from other at fault.

In addition, twenty-six citations were issued.

Safety tidbit

Team Eifel members, by law, must wear their seatbelt when driving or a vehicle passenger. The reason is safety. The following facts about

seat belts from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles' Web page offer some sobering reasons why seatbelt use is so important.

■ Safety belts are the best defense against traffic crashes. A person is twice as likely to die or sustain serious injury in a crash if unbelted.

■ Safety belts hold the driver in place, helping the driver maintain control of the car during a collision. The lap belt should fit low and snug across the hips while the shoulder belt keeps the driver from pitching forward into the steering wheel, dashboard and windshield.

■ Safety belts are effective in preventing total ejection of occupants from vehicles in collisions. Only one percent of the occupants using safety restraints were totally ejected, compared with 21 percent of the unrestrained occupants.

■ Medical costs resulting from traffic crashes are twice as costly for occupants who are not belted.

Proper fit

■ For an adult, the shoulder harness should fit closely against the chest, never under the arm. The lap belt should fit low and snug across the hips, never across the abdomen.

■ For a child, the shoulder harness should fit over the shoulder and across the breastbone. The lap belt should fit low and snug across the hips.

■ For pregnant women, keep the lap belt low across the hips, never across the abdomen.

On behalf of the 52nd Security Forces Squadron and the citizens wing members so proudly defend, officials ask that Team Eifel members ensure everyone in the vehicle is buckled up before driving away.



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Tech. Sgt. Karla Jeremiah-Griffith, 52nd Medical Support Squadron, checks Senior Airman Mandy Bollinger's blood pressure. As deployments cut into 52nd Medical Group manning, wing doctors will tap more into its network of preferred providers.

Lower manning leads doctors to refer patients for local care

By Ms. Tricia Vadney
52nd Medical Group Quality Services manager

Members of the 52nd Medical Group have recently deployed, like many other units on base. Group leaders anticipate additional deployments.

The decrease in staffing impacts the group's ability to provide an entire spectrum of services, but members are making dedicated efforts to minimize the impact on the Team Eifel community.

Most services still remain fully operational with little or no change including family practice, flight medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, gynecology, emergency services, optometry, dentistry, internal medicine, life skills and family advocacy.

"We have a dedicated staff of professionals who are here to provide the necessary care and services for our beneficiaries," said Col. John Lake, the group commander.

The medical group is fortunate to have an extensive network of preferred providers, such as local German physicians and other health care specialists.

If the group is unable to provide medical care, patients will be referred to either a local provider or Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. Health care benefit advisors will assist with referrals to local physicians.

For more information, call the Bitburg Annex TRICARE office at 452-3104 or the Spangdahlem AB office at 452-8150.



Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Senior Airman Nolan Hildebrand, 52nd Operations Support Squadron weather forecaster, is this week's Top Saber Performer.

Top Saber Performer

Name: Senior Airman Nolan Hildebrand
Unit: 52nd Operations Support Squadron
Duty title: Weather forecaster
Hometown: Jefferson City, Mo.
Years in service: Four

Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: Senior Airman Hildebrand directly supports flying operations by providing detailed mission and aerodrome forecasts and weather observations. He interacts with the supervisor of flying to ensure flying safety. He also provides the "eyes forward" for the operational weather squadron at Sembach Army Post, Germany, to ensure weather watches, warnings and advisories are issued when required to protect resources and lives, according to his supervisor. The weather forecaster produced 498 mission execution forecasts with a 90 percent accuracy rate and directed the first major weather communications system upgrade installation in U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: I coach the 52nd Operations Support Squadron volleyball team, am involved in other athletics and am finishing my associate's degree.

What's a fun thing you've done lately? I recently played on the base volleyball team at a tournament in England.

What do you like most about being stationed here? I like the fighter wing family concept and team attitude and learning about different cultures.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base? It would be nice to have an on-base indoor swimming pool.

Eifel Salutes

52nd Operations Group

Master Sgt. Patrick Wilson must have 25 hours in his day, as he makes time to hold three combat ready positions: instructor weapons director, operations coordinator, and battle staff coordinator. In his "spare time" he serves as the operations training superintendent, overseeing initial qualification training for 12 crew positions. Whew! **Airman 1st Class Shina Khalil** proved to be an apt pupil in winning the 52nd Fighter Wing Aviation Resource Management System Apprentice of the Year. Change is good for **Cpts. Sean Rassas** and **Dylan Baumgartner**, 2nd Lts. **Matt Lewis** and **Eric Freienmuth**, **Staff Sgts. Aaron Kigar** and **Scotty Chamberlain**, and **Mr. John Bradley** for their invaluable revisions to the 52nd OG scheduling and training processes.

52nd Maintenance Group

The eyes have it! **Tech Sgt. Jeff Bailey** superbly oversaw critical electronic warfare components supporting 52nd Fighter Wing deployments and flying operations. **Staff Sgt. Chad Landt** loves archery and is right on target in teaching the hobby to members of the Boy Scouts of America.

52nd Medical Group

Ms. Mary Gannon-Kroeschel tops the "charts" with the outstanding support she provides to the 52nd Medical Group Command Section. **Staff Sgt. Marie**

Sprecher wears the crown for coordinating all crown and bridge appointments and assisting the prosthodontist. **Maj. David Duque** and his force health management team and **Tech. Sgt. Fields** and her immunizations team stepped it up to make sure the smallpox vaccination program didn't hurt a bit! **Major (Dr.) Paul Plocek** was also a key player in facilitating smallpox briefings for the group's German Red Cross colleagues. The **expeditionary medical operations team** turned on the sirens to get our medics out the door last week. **Maj. (Dr.) Sreekumar Subramanian** and **Master Sgt. Tilmon Hodges** put forth a super effort in transferring a critically injured medic and his wife to two hospitals.

52nd Mission Support Group

Gearing up for deployment is in the bag thanks to the extraordinary efforts of **Master Sgt. Lisa Friend**, 52nd Communications Squadron unit deployment manager.

52nd Fighter Wing

Very driven is the **52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Vehicle Operations Flight**, who, lately with little or no notice consistently provide outstanding support, particularly in its "U Drive It" program.

Kudos to all, Team Eifel salutes you!

(Compiled by Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)

Distance apart hasn't hindered wing from working together successfully

By Master Sgt. Carey Shoff
 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant

As a first sergeant, I just wanted to pass along a few words concerning the men and women of the 52nd Fighter Wing.

I wrote that opening sentence twice. The first time I wrote, "men and women of the 52nd FW deployed down range." Then it dawned on me that a deployment of this magnitude and complexity couldn't have been accomplished if not for the entire team from the Eifel making it happen.

The support shown from those still at Spangdahlem Air Base has been phenomenal. No one could ask for better moral and logistical support than that being received from the spouses, children, co-workers and significant others at home station.

Believe me, I should know ... I have helped deliver the truckloads of mail being delivered to our folks! Please keep it coming! (Note of interest: chocolate chip cookies are my favorite.)

Please know that your support and encouragement is the key to keeping our troops' spirits up while they await the call. As for the troops here, it has been nearly a month since our folks hit ground here and they have done nothing but amaze me. Although I can't speak about specifics, suffice it to say that challenge after challenge has been thrown their way, yet they have overcome them all in outstanding fashion.

From a first sergeant's perspective, I have seen great sacrifice in many ways. Some have



Capt. Michael Horlbeck

Wing family members show their support to their pilot spouses who deployed from Spangdahlem Air Base Feb. 7 by waving goodbye with Old Glory.

already missed important moments in the lives of their children or spouse and some have lost family members, yet these troops understood that they couldn't take leave, as their nation needs them here.

As far as discipline goes, I know that first sergeants everywhere are envious, as I haven't had a single significant issue since we arrived. This is awesome! Members here have gelled as one team, often integrating folks from other bases and specialties who didn't know what a fighter jet was until we showed them. Our deployed members are more than ready to accomplish whatever our great country asks of them.

I couldn't be more proud of each and every one, as I am proud of everyone back at home base who have supported us and will continue to support us in the days ahead.

Although I never thought I wanted to hear the phrase again ... Take it from me, here and back at home station, GI, civilian and family members together are Team Eifel Ready!



Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Members of the 52nd Operations Support Squadron Combat Weather Team make up this week's Top Saber Team.

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Operations Support Squadron Combat Weather Team

Unit responsibilities: The combat weather team provides accurate weather observations and forecasts for the local Spangdahlem Air Base aerodrome as well as numerous training areas through Central Europe. The team ensures base agencies receive severe weather warnings in time to take action to protect aircraft, equipment and personnel. Members provide weather briefings for transient aircraft and the wing's three flying squadrons. The team also keeps the wing commander and senior staff apprised of local weather impacts to wing operations through five-day forecasts, battlestaff briefing support and other specialty briefing support. CWT members are worldwide deployable to provide contingency or combat weather support anytime, anywhere.

Number of members: 13

How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? The combat weather team is fully integrated into flying operations from supporting the supervisor of flying, to mass briefings at the flying squadrons prior to takeoff, to soliciting feedback on forecast accuracy after the aircraft recover. The staff instructs the weather portion of the instrument refresher course, keeping wing pilots aware of what is the worst flying weather in U.S. Air Forces in Europe. The CWT provides support to ensure that Team Eifel is constantly ready to meet its mission objectives.



Master Sgt. Terry L. Blevins

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM -- Airman 1st Class Dwayne Ordner, 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, reads in the shade of an F-16CJ while waiting for aircrew members to arrive.

Angela, Alec and Gabrielle,

I may be far away right now, but you are in all my thoughts all of the time. Have a Happy Valentines Day. I love and miss you all. Be good for Mommy while I am gone. Angela you are the love of my life, hope to be home soon.

All my love, Daddy

Victoria,

I know that this is the second Valentine's Day I missed, but I want you to know that I Love You and you are my whole world. I wish that I could be there to spend this one with you. Don't worry, I will be home before you know it. Try to have a Happy Valentines Day. I miss you very much.

Love, Brandon

My love,

I tutored you through math in high school,

Back then I was your hero,
I still love you like one over X,
As X approaches zero.
Stan

Dearest DeeAnn,

I thank God every day for bringing you into my life! I am truly blessed to be married to such a wonderful, sweet and caring woman! Even though we are apart this Valentine's Day, I want you to know how much I love, honor and cherish the love we share!! I love and miss you so much ... plus one!

Your loving husband, DJ

For Mare, Will and Kimmi

Once again we find ourselves away from each other on a special day, but I wanted to say Happy Valentine's Day everyone. I Love and miss you all. I'm real proud of how all of you are doing back there ... keep it up. I'll see you as soon as I can.

WillBill, A.K.A., Dad

Marissa and Sway Harner,

To both my family valentines back in Germany ... the two most important people in my life from dad, deployed in the Gulf ... share a great big warm hug with one another for me, love always.

Dawn,

Even though we are far apart, know that my thoughts and heart are with you each and every day. I miss you as we are apart and love you with all my heart. I look forward to being near you again once I return. Happy Valentine's Day my love.

My love for you always, JT

Jena,

I love you and hope to be with you again soon.

Love, Dave

Matthew and Tamara,

I never knew that I could love someone as much as I love the two of you. I have been blessed. I miss and love you guys so much. Matthew, I am looking forward to coming home and becoming Mrs. Tenney. With you, my dreams are coming true.

Kamilah

Dear Tony and Megan,

I love you two very much and miss you both. I'm sorry that I can't be with you right now, but I need you both to be really good for daddy. I'll be home as soon as I can. I love you and will talk to you as soon as I can.

Love, Mommy

Dear Jeff,

You are the love of my life and I can't wait to get home. Even though I'm not home right now, I want you to know that I think about you all the time. I wish I could be home with you and the kids. Please don't be upset that I'm not home, I'll be home as soon as I can.

Bubbles,

Sorry I can't be there to celebrate Valentine's Day with you. Know that I think of you every day, miss you very much and can't wait until my return.

All my love, Daddy Cakes

Dear Andrea and Corey,

Even though we cannot be together for Valentine's Day, I want you to know that I love you and miss you both. Andrea, Happy Valentine's Day, you are the half that makes me whole. I love you forever. Corey, Happy Valentine's Day and Happy 6th birthday. I wish I could be with you.

Love you both, Daddy Pemberton

Babydoll,

Happy Valentine's Day, our first of many to celebrate as one. Know that my thoughts are of you and of times yet to come. I am looking forward to the many years of happy times and holidays together. Look up at the stars and know that I am looking there too, thinking of you.

Love always and forever, Kevin

Happy Valentine's Day to Stephanie, Dalton and Alex,

With much love and many hugs,
Daddy Moose

Wendy, Nick and Trevor,

The miles can keep us apart but our love for each will always keep us together. Know that I will always Love you all.

Happy Valentine's Day, Rodney

Valerie,

We've been blessed in many ways. Our true blessing is that we have grown over the years and our devotion and love for one another has also grown stronger as the years continue. So on this Valentines day, even though I'm in another country and thousands of miles

I'll call you when I can and I wish it could be every night.

Love for you
always, your loving
wife, Michele

Take care my one love, Robert

Deanna Murdorf,

Darling although I am away at this special time of year my heart is there with you. Your are a gift from God and the most precious thing in my life. I will always cheerish you and look forward to a long happy life together. I love and miss you, lots of hugs and kisses.

Happy Valentines my love, Me

Wanda, Erika & Pat,

I can't begin to put into words how much I miss you. Thoughts of you keep me going day in and day out. Thanks for always being there and standing by me during these trying times. I'm counting the days until our reunion.

I love you and miss you all, Jeff
and Daddy

Hey Sweetie,

Happy Valentine's Day. I love you and Jillian very much and I miss you both a whole lot. I can't wait until you're in my arms again.

Love, Michael

Nicole L. Brown,

I know that we're apart, but as always I can't stop thinking about the most important woman in my life! You're the best wife a man could ever ask for! I Love You! Happy Valentines Day!

To my beautiful wife Michele and my little girl Elaina,

I wish I could be there with you both to be able to give you hugs and kisses on this Valentine's day. Just know that you both are in my thought and in my heart not only on this day but every day until I get home. Happy Valentine's Day!

Love you both always, Staff Sgt.
Ernesto F. Bolanos

Dear Wifey,

Hey there baby, Happy Valentine's Day! I really do wish that I could be with You right now. I miss you very much. I love you very much, always and forever. Take care of you.

Loving and missing you always,
Hubby

Beatrice, Robert and Kevin,

Happy Valentine's Day to my

terrific boys and loving wife. You are always in my heart and thoughts. I love you very much and miss you.

Daniel, PaPa

Jamie Casarez,

Hey sweetie, I will be thinking of you through out the day, Happy Birthday and Valentine's Day. Miss you more and first.

Love, Ben

Karen & Vikki,

Even though we are apart, know that you are both in my thoughts and prayers. Karen you are my life, with out you I would be lost. I love you MORE everyday. Vikki you have grown so much I'm proud to call you my daughter. Happy Valentine's Day!

Love, Mark

Charmane Winston, the world's greatest wife,

My world is empty with out you, I can't wait told hold you again. I'm yours forever and always.

Jerome Winston, your loving
husband

Zeny Childre,

I love you. Always and forever. Sorry we can't be together but you're definitely in my thoughts and dreams.

Kenny Childre

Jennifer Budrunas

I miss you. I wish I could be there to spend time with you. I love and miss you very much.

Bryon

Carri,

Happy Valentine's Day! I love and miss you very much! Give the kids a kiss and hug from me.

Love, Dean

To Jae, Oreo, & Gizzy,

I love you guys bunches! Happy Valentines Day! I miss U Sweet Pea!

Howdy from the land of sand!

Happy Valentines Day to the loveliest of lovelies!

With all my love, Eric

Crystal, Colt, and Curtis:

I love you and I'll be home just as soon as I can. (How's that for public love?)

Happy Valentine's Day! Corey

Sarah,

You are my sunshine! I can't wait to see and hold you again. You are the perfect wife and I love you with all my heart. Happy Valentine's Day!

Forever yours, Philip

Happy Valentine's Day LOML,

You're always on my mind, Ich liebe dich. Lukas and Jaylynn ... I miss my grizzly bear and princess, I love you both and I'm always thinking of you!! All of you have a Happy Valentine's Day!!

Love, Daddy

Chris, Cody and Corri,

Just wanted to wish you all a Happy Valentines Day. I love and miss you all very much. I love you and will see you soon.

Love, Heath

Melissa,

I love you very much and miss you even more I want to wish you a happy Valentine's Day and hugs and kisses on this day.

Love, Matt

T.J. Bear,

My Valentine ... Your friendship is undying, your love completes me. You are a wonderful mother to our precious children, you're the foundation of our family, and at times like this you amaze me with your strength and courage. I'll love you always and forever!

Your Valentine, HB

To my beloved wife Stacey,

It's been six months since we wed. The wonderful thoughts run through my head. To a beautiful lovely lady as true as you, I gave my complete heart when I said, "I do." With a heart of pure gold you replied, "My heart is yours till the day I die." At night I pray to our heavenly Father that soon we'll be united. Have faith in our Lord, our love, and our life. It can't be divided. Till we meet again my beloved wife, I will love you always for the rest of my life.

Your husband

Emy,

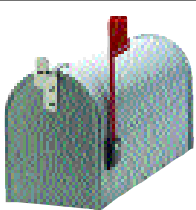
Ciao amore mio. Avere tu es avere tuo. Tiamo tanto!

Happy Valentine's Day. Martin

To Sammy and Bruno Taylor,

Your Mom and Dad miss you bunches! Happy Valentine's Day!

Community Mailbox



President's Day closures

■Service Credit Union branch offices are closed Monday.

■The Spangdahlem AB commissary is closed Monday. The Bitburg Annex commissary is open from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Le Leche

A meeting for mothers who breastfeed takes place Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex hospital. Children are welcome to attend. Call Ms. Margaret Loffelman at 06565-7555 for more information.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Meetings takes place each Tuesday, Friday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2015.

Internet use special

Deployed spouses can use the Internet free for one hour at the Internet Cafe with a copy of their spouse's deployment orders. Call 452-5326 for more information.

Family sponsors needed

The base volunteer resource program seeks volunteers to assist family members evacuated from other bases due to natural disasters or real world events. Program coordinators seek family sponsors, safe haven reception workers and family assistance center staff. Volunteer training and registration takes place Feb. 24 at 4:30 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001 and Feb. 28 at 1 p.m. in Spangdahlem AB building 307. Call Ms. Kelly Childs at 452-9491 for more information.

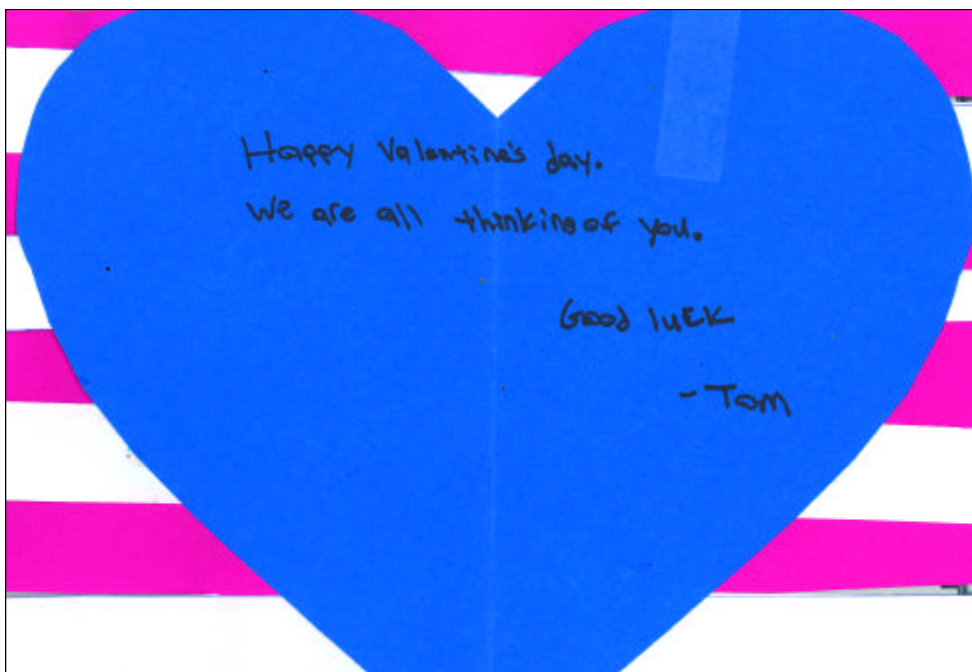
Volunteers needed

Volunteer help is needed at various base agencies. Call Ms. Kelly Childs, base volunteer resource program manager, at 452-9491 for more information.

Dining facility news

The Mosel Hall Dining Facility is located in Spangdahlem AB building 147. Call 452-6727 for more information.

■The dining facility closes for renovations Feb. 24 through Sept. 1. Airmen qualifying for subsistence in kind will receive rations-in-kind subsistence not available for the duration of the facility closure.



Card courtesy of Senior Airman Jeannette Huffman

Heart of patriotism

After learning about recent world events, including the possibility of war with Iraq and U.S. military deployments, Portage Middle School eighth-grade students in Michigan created handmade cards for 52nd Fighter Wing members. The card shown reads, "Happy Valentine's Day. We are all thinking of you. Good luck, Tom." Another card created by Brittany B. read, "We're all thinking of you here in the states. What you are doing is really great. It makes us feel safe knowing that you are protecting our home country. Thank you so much; you are very brave! Hope you can come home soon!" Senior Airman Jeannette Huffman, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron, distributed about 80 cards to wing units.

■A special President's Day meal takes place Monday from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Menu includes roast beef, fried catfish and Dijon chicken.

Playgroups

A preschool playgroup meets each Tuesday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Spangdahlem AB military family housing building 409-C. A playgroup meets in the Bitburg Annex temporary lodging facility, building 2. The playgroups offer parents and children an opportunity to meet other military families, build a support network and learn about Eifel region family activities. Call Ms. Michele Linnen at 452-8279 for more information.

School news

Bitburg Elementary School

■The BES Parent and Teacher Association officials seek spring carnival volunteers. The event takes place May 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Staff Sgt. Pamela Troester at 452-6424 for more information or to register.

Spangdahlem Elementary School

■A child-find screening takes place Feb. 21 for children ages 3 and 4 suspected of having developmental delays in language, social motor, cognitive and/or self-help skills. Call

452-5071 now through Feb. 20 from noon to 3 p.m. to make a screening appointment.

■School officials seek student mentoring program volunteers to offer academic assistance a minimum of one hour weekly. Teachers provide assignments and materials. Call Ms. Barabara Triplett at 452-6881 or 452-6170 for more information.

■The SES Parent, Teacher and Student Association seeks volunteers to help with the school talent contest taking place Feb. 27. Call Senior Master Sgt. Rick Aldrige at 452-6501 for details.

Bitburg High School

■College scholarship applications are available at the BHS counselor's office. Application deadline is Feb. 28.

Education center news

The base education office is located in building 192. Call the office at 452-6063 for more information.

■The cutoff date for the Community College of the Air Force April graduation is Feb. 28. All degree candidate documentation must be turned in by this date for students to graduate in the spring. For a degree review and progress report, visit an education services center counselor.

■A University of Maryland University College academic advisor visits Spangdahlem AB March 6 to assist students with their educational goals. Students can call the UMUC office at 452-6637 to schedule appointments.

■Applications for Term IV spouse tuition assistance are available at the base education office. The application deadline March 7 at 4 p.m.

■University of Maryland University College offers a variety of \$500 scholarships for undergraduate and graduate studies that can be used for Term 4 tuition and books, which begins March 31. Visit www.ed.umuc.edu for scholarship application and requirements. Also visit the UMUC branch office in the education center for the necessary essay information.

Family support news

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem AB building 307. Call 452-9491 for details.

■Predeployment briefing, Tuesday from 1-2 p.m.

■Welcome bag distribution, Wednesday from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

■Key spouse meeting, Wednesday from noon to 1:30 p.m.

■German bills made easy, Thursday from 3-4 p.m.

■Sponsor training, Thursday from 3-4 p.m.

■Four to go transition assistance, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■Preseparation consultation, Feb. 24 from 9-10:30 a.m.

The following workshops take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■Cooking for the French Mardi Gras, Wednesday from 6-8 p.m.

■Fighting for your marriage, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■Creative critters, Feb. 24 from 10-11 a.m.

Talent show

The date for the youth talent show is changed to March 20. Youth ages 6-18 are encouraged to enter. Registration deadline is Feb. 24. A free talent clinic takes place Feb. 22. Call 452-7381 for details.

Staying fit

The Health and Wellness Center offers the following classes in Spangdahlem AB building 130. For more information, call 452-9355.

■Women of iron, Thursday from 9-11 a.m.

■Singles cooking, Thursday at 6 p.m.

■Jump Start nutrition and exercise, Feb. 25 at 9 a.m.

Der Markt

Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The *Eifel Times* staff reserves the right to edit ads.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office staff. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.



Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

■ DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil

■ Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126

■ To PA in building 23.

■ Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

Sortie
Scoreboard

Unit	Goal	Flown
22FS	66	115
23FS	80	45
81FS	95	100

Sorties flown
Feb. 3-9

(Courtesy of the 52nd Maintenance Squadron Plans and Scheduling Section)

Viewpoint

Feb. 14, 2003

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Looking back

Lieutenant reflects on fun, friendship
with late NASA astronaut Dave Brown

By 2nd Lt. Douglas Huttenlocker
52nd Fighter Wing Manpower and Organization Office

Space! The word itself is magical. It conjures mystical images and stimulates the imagination. Actual exploration of space represents human potential, inspires our pioneer spirit and may embody our hope for the future.

In the wake of the recent Space Shuttle tragedy, I would like to share a little about Columbia astronaut Dave Brown.

I had the pleasure of working with Dave Brown during my previous assignment as a space shuttle rescue manager at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. To say Dave was brilliant and dedicated is an understatement. Both a flight surgeon and naval aviator, he seemed a natural selection to the astronaut program. However, he humbly declared his disbelief in actually being selected.

I remember thinking after our first meeting that he had found his true calling. He was always positive and jovial despite his first flight assignment residing some distance in the future (a result of his large astronaut class and the decreased launch schedule). We were on the launch pad the day he



Courtesy of NASA

Astronaut Dave Brown

forces when we were conducting training at the Cape (Kennedy Space Center). Quickly, he expressed the astronaut corps' appreciation for our assistance, firm in the resolve that they all realized the inherent risks of space travel. He chose to spend his time talking about how our rescue efforts provided peace of mind for their families. After answering questions, he would sign autographs and pose for pictures until all requests were filled.

told me he had been chosen to fly.

Through his typically calm demeanor you could feel his elation — a dream realized. I can't express the privilege I felt standing there.

Dave was kind and selfless. He would always visit Department of Defense rescue

On one occasion, he even indulged my typically over-proud, private pilot, space enthusiast father on a several hour tour. He endured the barrage of questions and dad's zeal as if it was his pleasure to do so.

Dave always had a smile on his face and a funny story to tell. My favorite showed just how humble he really was. He was attending an air show in a public relations capacity. A young flight enthusiast approached him with a camera and a notepad, eager for a photo and autograph. The boy asked, "Are you a Blue Angels pilot?"

Dave simply replied, "No son, I am not."

The youngster looked at Dave like he was a "poser," and sarcastically said as he ran away, "Oh, never mind then!"

That poor kid missed out on knowing a gentleman, a leader, a friend ... a hero.

Words cannot express the emotions or sentiment regarding this loss. To Dave and the crew of Columbia I can simply say thank you, good-bye, God speed and I would gladly trade places with any of you.

Doctor's note

Keep fit to fight by maintaining your HWS

By Lt. Col. Becky Brown
52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron commander

What's the importance of medical readiness, or force health protection? Why do I need a personal health assessment and my flu shot? Why do I have to be Dental Class I to deploy? The answer is easy.

How well can you fire a weapon when you're sneezing uncontrollably? How well can you load or fly an aircraft when you're throwing up? YOU are the mission!

Just like maintaining hardware to combat ready capability, we've got to ensure our most critical asset, the "human weapon system," is maintained in combat ready condition.

The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, said force health protection is "optimizing health readiness and protecting service members from all health and environmental hazards associated with military service." Force health protection begins with your accession into the military and ends at retirement and even beyond. What does this mean to each of us?

Back in the old days, everyone came in for a physical every five years. Those of us who've been around a while will remember that. The attitude was, if you were healthy, stay away from the medics. If you were sick, the doc would fix you. This reactive approach was inefficient and ineffective.

Maintainers have used preventive maintenance for years. The F-100 engine contains multiple parts that are vulnerable to failure in this complex system. Various parts need preventive maintenance

at scheduled times. Maintainers use a comprehensive set of preventive maintenance techniques from oil analysis, cycle time analysis and more, all designed to keep the engine delivering optimum performance for as long as possible. Engine removal for routine maintenance is expensive and time-consuming, and impacts combat

"The most cost effective 'maintenance' on humans is done with the annual PHA and dental check-up. Like an engine, the last thing we want is for system 'failure.' The time and cost involved to fix you when you're broken isn't as effective and it adversely affects the mission."

readiness. However it's important to minimize catastrophic failure.

Experience has shown there is an optimum time to pull an engine for inspection, at 4,000 cycles. When this preventive maintenance discovers an otherwise undetected problem, it has indeed proved its worth. The same applies to the "human weapon system."

Any number of failures can occur causing performance threats, such as a poor diet, high cholesterol, infectious disease, injury, hearing loss, emotional stress and toxins. To address all these

threats, medics, have caught on to the idea of preventive health.

The most cost effective "maintenance" on humans is done with the annual PHA and dental check-up. Like an engine, the last thing we want is for system "failure." The time and cost involved to fix you when you're broken isn't as effective and it adversely affects the mission.

During a preventive health assessment, occupational health exam and dental check-up, you and the medics work as a team, looking for leading indicators of risk or "breakdown." These include operational, occupational, environmental, genetic and lifestyle factors. It's a focused assessment based on your age, gender, occupation and other risk factors. If your risk factors require a blood test, it's just like the oil analysis for the engine. We're looking for indicators of "early wear."

Immunizations are also a huge part of preventive maintenance. We're all vaccinated against the flu, typhoid, many childhood diseases and now, those deploying are vaccinated against anthrax and smallpox. As health threats increase, so does our prevention toolkit. Immunizations have saved more lives than all other medicine lumped together. It's all part of force health protection.

So the next time you think about skipping out on a health appointment, a flu shot or you don't want to wear protective equipment, remember that it's all there to keep you as finely tuned as possible. It may just prevent that catastrophic failure. After all, you, the Air Force "human weapon system," are our most valuable resource.

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Bitburg Castle

Today

Catch Me If You Can (PG-13)

Frank W. Abagnale lived a life of crime using his abilities of forgery and subterfuge. FBI agent Joe Shaye, respected Abagnale's abilities so much that he eventually worked out the deal that got him out of prison after just five years. (Sexual content and language.)

Saturday

Friday After Next (R)

A thief is stealing Christmas presents and cousins Craig Day-Day decides to catch the "ghetto Santa" to keep the spirit of the holiday alive. (Language, sexual content and drug use.)

Sunday

Half Past Dead (PG-13)

Criminal mastermind Donny has set in motion a plan to infiltrate a high tech prison in order to persuade a death-row inmate to reveal the whereabouts of \$200 million worth of gold. Undercover FBI agent Sascha must stop him before it's too late. (Violence, language and sexual content.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PG)

Harry and friends return for their second year at Hogwarts, where things are far more intense. Harry begins to come into his own as a wizard while doing battle with Draco Malfoy, the Slytherin Quidditch team, and an evil and powerful new foe. (Scary scenes, violence and language.)

Thursday

Catch Me If You Can

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

The Truth About Charlie (PG-13)

Regina returns home from vacationing in Martinique to find that her husband Charles has been murdered. Their apartment and bank account have been completely emptied. His murder transforms into a belief that, in fact, she must learn the truth about Charlie. (Violence and nudity.)

Narc (R, 10 p.m.)

A narcotics cop, who happens to be a recovering drug addict, is assigned to help uncover the truth behind the murder of a young officer. He teams up with the deceased officer's partner and the cover-up they unravel could destroy them both. (Violence, drug content, language.)

Saturday

The Emperor's Club (PG-13)

William Hundert finds his world of tradition up ended with the arrival of a new freshman, the son of a senator. Almost immediately, they become embroiled in a turbulent battle of wills with repercussions that would still be felt a quarter of a century later. (Sexual content.)

Narc (10 p.m.)

Sunday

Extreme Ops (PG-13)

A film crew travels to the Austrian Alps where they plan to film three extreme sports. However, they happen to film a notorious Serbian war criminal and he gives chase, forcing the crew through a number of extreme situations. (Violence, language and nudity.)

Monday

Narc

Tuesday

The Truth About Charlie

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

*Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.*



A local Fasching "prince and princess" are escorted to the front of the stage with the help of "royal guards." Traditional German Fasching celebrations such as the one shown feature elaborate costumes costing hundreds of euros.

Halloween in early spring?

Shop windows feature fun frocks

Fasching fans find everything is in fashion throughout annual European 'silly season'

Story and photos by Ms. Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Sequined gowns, feathered masks and jester's hats typically dress up local department store windows during this time of season in Europe. However, American window shoppers who aren't familiar with local holiday customs may wonder why merchants are selling Halloween costumes so far from October.

For weeks now, Europeans have been celebrating Fasching, an annual holiday in which people enjoy secular "silly season" before the lean and somber times of Lent. Costumes are a way for people to "hide" their identity while they let go of their inhibitions.

Fasching costumes are now available for purchase at local German stores. Some stores sell only exclusive Fasching fashions. One of these stores can be found in Bergweiler, near Wittlich. There's another Fasching boutique in Wittlich, near the Neukauf store.

Costumes range from simple plastic clown noses and funny looking hats to expensive and glamorous prince or princess regalia. Animal and clown cos-

tumes are always popular. Children can be seen in the traditional cowboy or Indian costume complete with feather headdresses and 10-gallon hats. Children also commonly dress as fire fighters, nurses and soldiers.

Homemade costumes are also popular. Many Germans who plan to participate in a Fasching parade or ball purchase fabric and sew their own costumes. For instance, if someone wanted to dress as Pippi Longstocking, they could wear a bright yellow tee shirt, two pairs of brightly colored mismatched socks and a pair of old, worn black boots. Other accessories, such as a long, braided wig, can be found in a Fasching costume shop.

Even though they're used only once a year, Fasching costumes aren't always cheap. Costume prices range from 50 to 200 euro and or 5 to 50 euro for accessories.

In Southern Germany, the costumes differ from those worn in the Rheinland-Pfalz region. There, people wear huge handcrafted wooden heads, often resembling witches or other ugly-looking creatures.



Not all Fasching costumes are expensive. Many locals create their own costumes using colorful clothing, face paints and silly hats, such as this clown costume.

Locally, public Fasching celebrations kick off Feb. 27 with Ladies Day. From that day on until midnight March 4, people take part in special dinners, parades, dances and parties dressed up to "let their hair down."

Out and About

(Editor's note: Event dates and times are subject to change. To confirm event details, call the telephone information office at 11833 and ask for a number to the tourist office in the town the event takes place. For event tickets, call the Press-Center Trier at 0651-14599-30, the Trier Tourist Information Office at 0651-9780822 or the Trier Ticket Service at 0651-9941188, unless specified otherwise.)

■Brian Adams performs March 10 at Cologne Koeln arena.

■The 2nd Annual Bitburg Beer festival takes place March 13 through April 5 in a Bavarian-style tent on former Bitburg AB.

■See "Grease," a musical, March 16 at the Trier Messe Park hall.

■The 2003 Bitburg Beda market takes place March 14-16.

■"Fire of Dance," a musical featuring Riverdance and Stomp shows March 17 at Saarbruecken Congress hall.

Information, Tickets and Tours offers the following tours in February. People should register for trips at least three days in advance. Children's prices are for ages 3-12, unless specified otherwise. Call 452-6567 for more information.

■Venice for Carnevale, Feb. 28-March 1. Cost is \$110 for single seats, \$140 for double seats.

■Karlsbad crystal and flea market shopping, Feb. 28-March 1. Cost is \$39 per seat.

■Heidelberg castle and city tour, March 8. Cost is \$39 for adults, \$35 for children.

■Bavarian highlights overnight tour, March 8-9. Cost is \$159 for adults, \$139 for children.

Sports Shorts

Hunting licenses

A German hunting course takes place each Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30-8:30 p.m. from Feb. 25 to May 15 at 52nd Services Squadron Outdoor Recreation in Spangdahlem AB building 146. Call 452-7176 for more information.

Football

The Langenfeld Longhorns, a semi-professional Division II football team near Cologne, Germany, seeks experienced players for the upcoming football season. Visit www.langenfeld-longhorns.de for details.

Swimming lessons

Eifel Sharks swimming lessons for children ages 3 and older take place each Monday for five weeks throughout March. Sessions take place from 4-4:45 p.m. and another from 5-5:45 p.m. Registration takes place Thursday from 4-6 p.m. at Bitburg Annex youth programs facility. Space is limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call Laura Darden at 06561-604768 or e-mail [lrdaten-\(no hyphen\)@yahoo.com](mailto:lrdaten-(no hyphen)@yahoo.com), or call Tiina O'Sullivan at 06563-960742 or e-mail tiinaLV@aol.com.

Youth sports

Baseball and softball registration starts March 2 at the Spangdahlem Air Base youth programs sports office located in building 427. Registration also takes place in the Bitburg Annex in the fitness center. Call 452-7545 for information.

Barons defend Division II title

BHS wrestlers take Patch to the mat, scoring positions for all-conference meet

By Ethan Lake
Barons wrestling assistant coach

The Bitburg High School Barons wrestling team crowned four European champions during the Division II wrestling tournament in Mannheim, Germany, as it secured its second Division II team title in two years.

The Barons amassed a whopping 215.5 points leaving the rest of the Division II teams in its wake. Patch came in at a distant second with only 136 points, SHAPE took third with 128 points, followed by Hanau at 108 points, Vilseck at 85 points, American School in London at 80 points, AFNORTH at 76.5 points and Mannheim finished with 64 points.

The Baron wrestling team dominated the competition in more ways than one. No other team was able to secure more than two champions other than the Barons who also had four runners up, four third place finishers, six fourth place finishers, two fifths and four sixth places in posting their runaway win.

Leading the squad to victory this past weekend was Devon Gardner taking first



Jay Gardner

place at 125 pounds. Devon, whose family moved here from Calif. this past summer, is a welcome addition to the Baron crew. His impressive performance also earned him the coveted Division II Most Valuable Wrestler award.

Sharing first place victories with Devon were Jordan Watts at 171 pounds, Jeremy Wooten at 215 pounds and Randy Van Ginkle at 275 pounds. Silver medalists include Daniel Brunal at 103 pounds, John Coker at 112 pounds, Kyle McQuiston at 119 pounds, and Steve Gutschow at 135 pounds.

Also making the All-Conference team were Joe Mueller, Matt Wilson, Anthony Messina, David Vilanova, Cole Tawney, Jonas Jenson, Lance Hoffman, Ryan

Warner and Justin Cole.

To make the All-Conference team for Division II and the chance to compete in the All-European championships in Wiesbaden, Germany, next weekend wrestlers had to place in the top three at the tournament. With those numbers, the Barons were able to place a total of 17 wrestlers to the All-Conference team.

During the meet, the wrestlers will be competing against the top 224 wrestlers from all divisions, from all over Europe, including schools from Iceland, England, Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Italy, and Turkey.

Barons wrestlers must place in the top six to make the All-Europe team, which isn't an easy task.

Less its star player, varsity Ladies take hard weekend loss

Strong first-quarter play earns JV team two-game victory and nine win, one loss season record

By Denny Lemmon
Lady Barons basketball coach

This past weekend the Bitburg High School Lady Barons basketball teams played SHAPE in Belgium.

The varsity ladies lost Friday night 47-20 and Saturday morning 32-17. The losses give the varsity squad a four-win, six-loss league record. The junior varsity team, however, claimed a 39-15 victory Friday and a 40-26 win Saturday. The JV Ladies have a sparkling nine win, one loss record.

Varsity action

The varsity Lady Barons had to play another game without Nadia Parker, their 6-foot, 2-inch All-European center. She was down and out with the flu. The Ladies tried to land a birthday gift win for Team Captain Chelsea Gavagan, but couldn't deliver. The SHAPE Spartans took advantage of the missing player

and took off with a 26-12 half time lead.

Throughout the first half, the Lady Barons had a difficult time generating an offense. A bright spot was when Senior Tanja Moore led the Barons with twelve. Freshman Carletta Hernandez added six.

Saturday, the Lady Barons attempted to slow down the fast breaking Spartans and to take better control of the ball. They played a triangle and two defense against the Spartans in an attempt to control the two outstanding guards from SHAPE. The strategy worked well for the first quarter as the Lady Barons trailed 5-7. Unfortunately, in the second quarter the Barons went scoreless and the Spartans scored five to take a 10-5 lead into the half.

In the third quarter, Charity Stowers, the All-European guard



from SHAPE scored nine of her game high 22 points to put the Spartans up 19-13. Going into the fourth quarter, the Lady Barons still felt they had a chance to win, but costly turnovers caused by Stowers gave the team its sixth loss of the season.

Junior varsity action

The junior varsity team under the guidance of Coach Richard Carr keeps on chalking up the victories. Friday, Hernandez scored a game high 15 points all in the first half to give the Barons a comfortable 22-9 lead.

Continued pressure defense throughout the second half gave the Lady Barons an easy victory. Guard Monica Bintz played well scoring 12 points and making three assists. Center Jazmine Winn scored seven points all in that final quarter.

Saturday morning the Barons attacked the Spartans with a devastating full court man-to-man press that prevented the home team from scoring a single point in the first half. A balanced scoring attack gave the Lady Barons an 18-0 half time lead. In the second half the Ladies coasted on to their ninth victory of the season.

This weekend the Barons travel to Patch Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany, to take on the highly talented Panthers.

Barons varsity battle against SHAPE ends in two-game bust

By Wayne Phillips
Barons basketball corespondent

The Bitburg High School Barons basketball team continued to struggle as they lost two games at SHAPE this past weekend.

Varsity action

Despite Point Guard Erik Pumbo's hustle and the battling under the boards of Freshman B.J. Phillips and Junior Joel Brown, SHAPE's depth helped them extend a 40-18 half-time lead to a final score of 76-38 Friday.

The only Barons scores came from Brown, with 13 points; Joel Parker, with 11; and Phillips and Alyx Walks, each with seven. SHAPE had nine players to score in the game.

Brown led Bitburg rebounders, with 11.

Phillips added eight "boards." Despite an off night in the scoring department, Pumbo contributed eight assists from his point position.

Although Brown was sidelined with a sore knee on Saturday, the rest of the Barons fought hard to keep the bigger SHAPE squad at bay. While playing a more controlled game, Bitburg reduced its turnovers to 14 (compared to 22 on Friday). Still, the Barons could muster only 37 points to the SHAPE Spartans' 70.

Phillips, having the first double-double game of his career, led Bitburg with 12 points and 12 rebounds. Parker scored nine points and Pumbo and Ray Hernandez each contributed four points. Pumbo was second in rebounds with five while grabbing six steals and passing

out four assists. Mike Hunter garnered four rebounds and two points.

JV action

The BHS boys JV team came within a whisker of posting wins in both of their games at SHAPE, but two quarters of minimal scoring scotched their hopes Friday.

Wilson and Morales each made their first shot in the first quarter, but the BHS team missed its next seven shots. SHAPE, meanwhile, scored 12 points in the quarter, knocking down four of six shots including two three-pointers and two freethrows.

Bitburg recovered in the second quarter and trailed by only four at the half. The Baron shooters again went cold in the third quarter,

however, making just one of nine attempts. Fouls also hurt the Barons as it sent the Spartans to the charity stripe 16 times while attempting none themselves. The final score was 30-26.

Hunter was BHS' high scorer, with 14 points. He also hauled in eight rebounds. Anthony Fornicola led in the rebounding category with 13. Jamar Robinson added six assists.

Fornicola played an inspired game Saturday, with 23 rebounds and 14 points, but the Barons still came up short, 43-38.

After trailing by just a point at halftime, the Barons committed 15 of their 20 total turnovers in the second half. SHAPE eased ahead by five and held on, as the BHS team was able to convert only two of 15 free throws for the game.